

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraph [0035] of the application as published under U.S. Publication No. 20050160633 with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0035] In addition to the ergonomic advantages, embodiments of the present invention provide enhanced functional performance through a judicious use of a fulcrum line formed at about the central portion of the wheel assembly shown in Figure 5. Line x' passing through the center of the fulcrum area 145 parallel to the ground datum line x forms the fulcrum line. A force F applied to the fulcrum through an action at the handle 133 can be resolved into a horizontal component F_h and a downward vertical component F_v , as shown in Figure 5. With no substantial resistance to the horizontal component F_v , the wheel rolls to the left, in accordance with the direction of the applied force F shown in Figure 5, while the ground under the wheel reacts to the downward component F_v giving rise to an upward recoil reaction $-F_v$ by the wheel. A brisk and mostly downward action on the handle 133, using arm and/or body weight, for example, produces a recoil assist to the throwing power. The magnitudes of the force component vectors F_h and F_v are determined by substantially angle β ~~eff~~ and the magnitude of the transmittal force F ~~substantially by angle θ~~ . Angle Ω contributes to the throwing power. Furthermore, the shovel blade 120 can be formed in different configurations to assist in efficient release of material 160 from the shovel blade 120. For example, the shovel blade 120 can have a bottom portion with a relatively large radius of curvature p , resembling a scoop, for easy sliding of material from the shovel blade, as well as for keeping the material from sliding backwards and spilling off the shovel blade. It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that these various parameters can be set to values that are commensurate with the ergonomic and functional requirements for a particular use or application of a wheeled shovel of the present invention.